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Title: Need to sanction funds for renovation of Mundrothuruthu Railway Station, augment railway services and passenger amenities in Mavelikkara Parliamentary Constituency, Kerala.

SHRI KODIKKUNNIL SURESH (MAVELIKKARA): I would like to draw sthe kind attention of the Union Government towards lack of development in the Mundrothuruthu island Gram Panchayat of Kollam district in Kerala. This Gram Panchayat belongs to my Parliamentary constituency Mavelikkara in Kerala. Mundrothuruthu is inhabited by about 25,000 people and is located at the confluence of the famous Ashtamudi Lake and Kallada River.

Road connectivity of this island to main land is very poor and people of this island depend upon trains only to reach the mainland. Hospitals, District Admiistration, good schools and colleges are situated in the main land. Inadequacy of basic facilities like drinking water, sanitation, electricity and road transport facilities are hampering the progress and development of the residents there.

There is a Railway Station in Mundrothuruthu which is the halt station. The poor passengers of Mundrothuruthu are not getting adequate train facilities. The Railway Station building is in a dilapidated condition. The Railway Administaration has been neglecting this Railway Staton. No fund is allocated for shelter, extension of the platform and other passenger amenities. The Mundrothuruthu railway station do not fully benefit the people as long distance trains do not stop here. Years back, there was a long distance train i.e. Malabar Express which used to stop here but it was discontinued due to unknown reasons. There is a demand from the commuters to reinstate the halt of this train. If it is not possible for any reasons, the stoppage of Maveli Express may be provided at this Station for the benefits of the peple of Mundrothuruthu. The Railway Station is one of the most accident prone stations. There was a serious train accident, the infamous Peruman train accident when the Bangalore-Kanyakumari Island Express derailed on the Peruman bridge over Ashtamudi river and fell into the river. Hundreds of passengers lost their lives in this tragic accident. This station should be given a special status.

In this situation, I would like the Railway Minister and the Union Government to sanction adequate fund for the renovation of this Railway Station Building, extension of the platform and passenger amenities. This Railway Station should be converted into a signal station or crossing station.